GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the City Administrator

March 17, 2016

Dear Representatives of the Langdon Park Community Association:

Thank you for your letter of March 8, 2016 (Enclosure 1). As residents of Washington, DC, a bustling city, we all live and work in close proximity to services, attractions, and industries. As you know, in Ward 5—where increasingly Washingtonians seek to live, work, and play—that diverse landscape is on full display. We were able to experience that together last week, as I walked the Langdon neighborhood with you and other members of your community to identify concerns and make commitments to address them.

The short-term family housing site planned for 2266 25th Place NE will be a modern, beautiful, and dignified facility where families will be safe and supported as they move toward permanent housing. The location and plans for this development were thoughtfully made and are focused on providing a better service for vulnerable families.

2266 25th Place NE is an appropriate site for short-term family housing. Any assertion that families would be better served at DC General is simply not accurate. DC General is a century-old hospital building situated next to a prison that houses up to 1,000 adults and children each night; and where 50 families per floor share a few congregate bathrooms. In contrast, the new site in Ward 5 will provide a best-in-class facility, serving no more than 50 families, and will be situated near Langdon Park.

As you know, we have submitted our proposal to DC Council for their consideration, which includes the development of a short-term family housing facility near Langdon Park. We urge you to refer your suggestions to your ward Councilmember and work with him on recommending a consensus choice for an alternative site.

Please note that the Mayor's office spoke to Councilmember McDuffie in 2015 regarding plans to close and replace DC General with short-term housing facilities in every ward of the city, and we invited him to recommend specific sites.

We remain committed to closing DC General and replacing it with facilities and programs that DC families deserve. We are equally committed to the residents of Langdon Park and to ensuring its continued viability.

Thank you for your engagement, and for your continued commitment to helping realize positive outcomes for Ward 5, its residents, and the District as a whole.

Sincerely,

Rashad M. Young City Administrator

Enclosure 1: Langdon Park Community Association Letter_3.8.2016

cc: Woodridge South Community Association